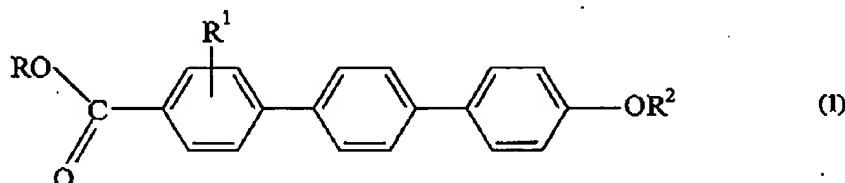


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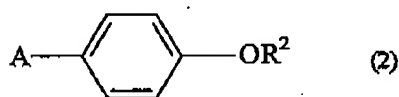
at 40 to 180°C in the presence of a catalyst, of an acid-binding agent and of a polar solvent.

In the Claims:

1. (Original) A method for producing [1,1':4',1"]-terphenyl compounds of the formula

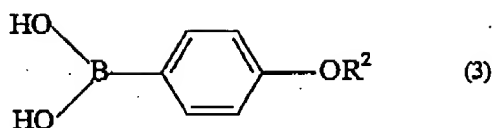


in which R is hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl radical, R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, a straight-chain or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl radical or a straight-chain or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy radical and R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, a straight-chain C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl radical, an unsubstituted phenyl radical, a phenyl radical which is substituted by one or two C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl groups or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy groups, or a radical -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>x</sub>OR<sup>3</sup> in which x is an integer from 1 to 4 and R<sup>3</sup> is a straight-chain or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl radical, which comprises reacting a metal aryl of the formula

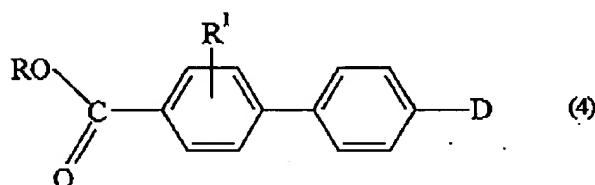


in which A is a monovalent metal or MeX, where Me is a divalent metal and X is Cl, Br or I, and R<sup>2</sup> is A or a trisubstituted silyl radical, or has the meaning indicated in formula (1), excepting hydrogen, with a boric ester at -80 to 40°C in the presence of an inert solvent, converting the reaction product by hydrolysis into a boronic acid of the formula

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reacting the boronic acid, a boronic anhydride obtainable from boronic acid by elimination of water, or a mixture of boronic acid and boronic anhydride, with an alcohol, and reacting the boronic ester formed thereby with a biphenyl compound of the formula



in which R and R<sup>1</sup> have the meaning indicated in formula (1), and D is Cl, Br, I O<sub>3</sub>S-, C<sub>n</sub>F<sub>2n+1</sub>, where n is an integer from 1 to 4, or N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>Y<sup>-</sup> where Y<sup>-</sup> is ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> or HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, at 40 to 180°C in the presence of a catalyst, of an acid-binding agent and of a polar solvent.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a metal aryl of the formula (2) in which A is Li, Na, K, MgX or ZnX and X is Cl, Br or I is employed.
3. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a metal aryl of the formula (2) in which A is MgCl, MgBr or MgI is employed.
4. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a boric ester B(OR')<sub>3</sub> in which R' is identical to or different from one another and is a straight-chain or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl radical, or a phenyl radical which is unsubstituted or substituted

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by one or two C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl groups or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy groups is employed.

5. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a dialkyl ether having 1 to 4 carbon atoms in each alkyl radical, a cycloaliphatic ether having 4 or 5 carbon atoms in the ring, a formaldehyde dialkyl acetal, a 1,2-dialkyl glycol ether having 1 to 4 carbon atoms in each alkyl radical, a mixture thereof or a mixture thereof with toluene is employed as inert solvent.

6. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed claim 1, wherein a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl alcohol, a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkane-1,2-diol, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkane-1,3-diol, a C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkane-1,4-diol or 1,2-dihydroxybenzene is employed as alcohol.

7. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the boronic acid, the boronic anhydride or the mixture of boronic acid and boronic anhydride is reacted in place of the boronic ester with the biphenyl compound of the formula (4).

8. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a biphenyl compound of the formula (4) in which D is Cl, Br, I or N<sub>2</sub>+Y<sup>-</sup> is employed.

9. (Previously Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein palladium, a palladium compound or a nickel compound is employed as catalyst.

10. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein where said polar solvent is selected from the group of: an alcohol, a sulfoxide, a sulfone, and or amide are employed as polar solvent.

11. (Cancelled)

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12. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein~~ where said polar solvent is selected from the group of: an alcohol, a sulfoxide, a sulfone, and an amide and, water or a mixture thereof are employed as polar solvents.